

BEEF PRICES STABILIZED AFTER RECORD HIGHS



The high price of cattle means fewer people can afford to purchase beef in store.

Photo by Taylor Rattray

Taylor Rattray @tayrattray

After record-breaking highs over the last year, the price of beef has now stabilized. With the discovery of BSE, or mad cow disease, in 2003, many cattle farmers struggled to turn a profit. Following over a decade of tough times for these farmers, the price of beef rose to a historical high in the last year.

Tim Keys, who has been a cattle farmer for 35 years, believes the overall increase in price was due in part to the size of North America's cattle herd.

"The North American cattle herd has been liquidated off and it's the smallest it's ever been. There was many years in the United States where there was a lot of drought and high grain prices (which) pushed guys to go into grain farming and drop cattle production, because it is quite a bit of work," said Keys.

Bill Strautman, a communications specialist for the Saskatchewan Cattleman's Association, agrees with Keys.

"We've probably gone from five million cows in Canada in the late 2000s, to I think we're under four million now. So that's a 20 per cent drop in animals in Canada. (And) when your supply drops, your price is probably going to go up," said Strautman.

The price of beef is now evening out.

"They're not going up like they did in the last six months or a year. In the last year, the prices have really run up. They've probably, in some cases, just about doubled, depending on the weight class you're looking at for the animals. In the last four or five months, it's probably stabilized now," said Strautman.

Brian McCarthy, owner of Spring Creek Simmentals, said rising prices are very good for business, but he doesn't expect them to continue.

"It is a commodity market, like oil or any other commodity; there's people in and out with money. When things get that high that quick, usually there's some correction in the markets. I don't see it getting any better. I see it staying strong for some time, but I don't think we're going to see it get any higher for a while," said McCarthy.

According to Brian Perillat, a manager and senior analyst at Canfax, a division of the Canadian Cattleman's Association, the current value of the Canadian dollar has prevented the value of beef from decreasing substantially since the record high values in the fall.

"Luckily, we kind of track off the U.S. markets, (and) the softening dollar has sort of sheltered us from the price decrease they've seen down there. They set the prices so

we follow the markets (that) are set in US dollars so, if our dollar softens, it helps elevate our prices relative to theirs," he said.

But not everyone is celebrating high prices. Big Bob's Meats owner Kelly Garchinski said the sale of beef in his store has been down because it costs more to buy. This has been a challenge for him.

"It makes it a little bit tougher. We have to really watch our costs, because it seems like prices have been changing every week and you never know what you're going to be paying from week to week for a product," he said.

Despite complaints from his customers, Garchinski said he has been able to accommodate the rise in beef prices.

"We've come to kind of learn about it, and we just have to watch our prices when we're selling," said Garchinski.

For Keys, the cycle of beef prices isn't something to get too concerned about. He's stayed in the industry despite the risk of fluctuation.

"The market is cyclical, it goes up and down. This is the highest prices we've ever seen for cattle, but we don't expect that bubble to stay unpopped. It's probably just a cycle up; it's going to come down again," he said.

CANADIANS TO WATCH A VERY AMERICAN SUPER BOWL 51

Paige Kreutzwieser @paigekreutz

Canadian commercials took an even bigger blow than the Seattle Seahawks after Super Bowl 49. It may have been the last time our country sees Canadian content during the big game.

"For a number of years, Canadians have complained to the CRTC that they want to see the American ads during the Super Bowl," said the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) in an online statement on Jan. 29.

The CRTC announced last week its decision to prohibit simultaneous substitution for the 2017 Super Bowl, which may result in the loss of hundreds of millions of dollars for Canadian television.

Simultaneous substitution means Canadian advertisements are played during the American commercials.

This is why in Regina, viewers of this year's Super Bowl witnessed a University of Regina advertisement instead of Jublia's toenail fungus topical solution commercial.

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NEW ANTI-TERROR LAWS MAY CAUSE DELAYS



Ali Alarbah, an ESL student from Libya at the U of R says international student visa process could be delayed.

Photo by: Rafique Bhuiyan

Rafique Bhuiyan @rafiquebhuiyan

Harper's new anti-terror laws, which propose significant new powers for police and CSIS, have raised debate among Canadians about racial profiling.

Muslim people are afraid that the government agency will threaten their basic liberties, and that Muslims in Canada will be unfairly profiled simply because they were in the wrong place at the wrong time.

"Because this anti-terrorism law comes out after the events in the fall, they are connected with Islam, clearly all anti-terrorism laws are aiming at Islamic-type things, even though they don't mention it," said Volker Greifenhagen, professor of religious studies and dean of Luther College at the University of Regina.

"The problem, though, is it will lead, I am pretty sure, to profiling of people who are Muslims, especially if they are traditional Muslims. It will impact on certain people; especially Muslim people, visible Muslims or people who look like Muslims or people who are brown-skinned," Greifenhagen added.

Under existing legislation, police can make preventative arrests and

hold suspects for up to three days without pressing charges. The proposed Bill C-51 would allow authorities to hold suspects for up to seven days.

CSIS agents will be legally allowed to do is to seek a warrant to break into someone's home, seize and copy documents, "install, maintain or remove any thing" (presumably a monitoring device), or do anything else a judge agrees is reasonable in

"WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO GO TO A COUNTRY THAT PUTS YOU UNDER SUSPICION?"

- VOLKER GREIFENHAGEN

these heightened times, according to the Globe and Mail editorial.

Some wonder how the government will carry out this law without adequate resources.

"Canadians should not be willing to accept such an obvious threat to their basic liberties. Our existing laws and our society are strong enough to stand up to the threat of terrorism without compromising our values," the editorial concluded.

"The other problem is the federal government is very good at passing all kinds of laws, but not allocating

resources for the laws to be carried out properly, the threat is laws will become a blunt instrument," Greifenhagen said.

For example, more screening requires more people doing the screening. Foreign workers or students applying to come to Canada already face delays during the screening process.

"Even in our university here, it is almost impossible for us to hire

anybody as a professor who is not a Canadian, they have made it so difficult. It is no longer possible for the universities to hire experts or excellence from overseas," Greifenhagen said.

Increasing international enrollment is a priority for the U of R. Greifenhagen said if the proposed laws create even longer delays for students and faculty, top talent will go elsewhere.

"Why would you want to go to a country that puts you under suspicion? Even inadvertently they will

put you under surveillance right away because of your religious identification," he said.

Mohammad Shumon, a mechanical engineer at a multi-national company who is new to Regina said Bill C-51 sends a different message to new Canadians.

"Canada is known as a multicultural, liberal country and the people of Canada itself are building a nice society, so this legislation will bring to the whole society a wrong message," he said.

Mohammad also said it will be very hard for Canada to get the right people in the right employment positions, if the bill becomes law.

"Definitely Canada is known as a peaceful country in the world so passing this legislation Canada will weaken its image because the world will think radicalization is increasing in this country," Mohammad said.

Ali Alarbah, a petroleum engineer from Libya who is studying ESL at the U of R agrees. "For security it's OK but to get foreign Muslim students to come to Canada will be hard," he said.

UNCERTAIN FUTURE FOR JOBS IN REGINA



Job opportunities and are advertised in front of the University of Regina Career Centre. Saskpower offers jobs despite the hiring freeze.

Photo by: Carlos Prieto

Carlos Prieto
@carlosprietousb

Over 700 new jobs were generated in Regina over 2014, with mines and utilities experiencing the biggest growth. However, experts don't see a bright future for employment in the city as hiring grew by 0.4 per cent throughout the year, down from 5.9 per cent in 2013.

Doug Elliott, owner of QED Information Systems and publisher of Sask Trends Monitor, expects a decline in the city for 2015 as a result of government restraints. "We may see a decline in the Crown corporations and other parts of public administration, like healthcare and education," he said.

The decrease in employment is already present in Saskatchewan. In December, the provincial government announced a hiring freeze that forced government ministries and corporations like SaskPower to hire only in positions that they consider critical to their basic operations.

The freeze in jobs in the province has brought fears in some students. Jeeshan Ahmed, soon to graduate from environmental engineering at the University of Regina, said recent graduates have lost their jobs as a result of the situation their companies were going through.

However, he believes there are good opportunities and is optimistic about his own future. "I still think I can make a good contribution to society with my degree. I just have to find the right avenues," he said.

While utilities and mining related activity rose greatly in the city, other sectors like agriculture or accom-

modation and food services experienced significant decreases. Combined, these sectors lost over 2,700 jobs. Moreover, the 0.4 per cent growth in jobs in 2014 was considerably lower than previous years. On average, employment rose by 3.3 per cent from 2009 to 2013.

However, Elliott believes both the city and the province are rich in jobs for people with university degrees. "Anybody with a university degree has a pretty good chance of finding a job," he said. As well, employment in Saskatoon and Calgary grew by 3.0 per cent and 2.6 per cent last year, respectively.

"I THINK I CAN MAKE A GOOD CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY WITH MY DEGREE. I JUST HAVE TO FIND THE RIGHT AVENUES."

- JEESHAN AHMED

The career fair hosted at the University of Regina on Monday, Feb. 2, left bittersweet impressions on the students. For Ahmed, it was a chance to see that there are opportunities in the field he is interested once he graduates.

For others, the career fair showed the lack of opportunities in their field of interest. Precious Onungwe, student of petroleum engineering and business, noticed a low number of oil companies at the career fair. The provincial hiring freeze also alarms him. However, he believes that he can find a job not related to the oil sector. "I think most companies are looking at how and individual can learn and adapt, and I think I am versatile," he said.

Students in other sectors don't see











the situation as bad. Accounting student Mohamed Hassan said it would be easier for him to find a job in Regina because of his connections in the city. "I had to eight-month work terms at SaskPower and MNP, so I think it would be easier for me to get hired here," he said.

The construction industry is another aspect that grew considerably over 2014. Over the year, the City of Regina carried out over 37 projects, such as the replacement of water connections on Broad Street and Winnipeg Street and the replacement of asphalt of Ross Avenue.

However, the construction sec-

tor has found competition in other provinces. Some workers have left Saskatchewan because of better job opportunities. José Cardozo, member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, moved to Alberta in 2014 because of better job opportunities. "I was in Regina for the expansion of the refinery and stayed there until it was over," said Cardozo in Spanish. He said that he has found better job opportunities in his new home.



Employment rate per province seasonally adjusted, according to Statistics Canada:				
Province	Per cent			
 Quebec	59.7			
 Newfoundland and Labrador	53.7		Ontario	60.8
 New Brunswick	57		Manitoba	64.6
 Nova Scotia	57.5		Saskatchewan	66.1
 British Columbia	59.5		Alberta	69.6
 Prince Edward Island	61.3			

POLEMIC OVER PIPELINE IN HARBOUR LANDING



Gas pipeline to be converted into oil for the Energy East Pipeline in Southwest Regina's Harbour Landing.

Photo by Virginia Wright

Virginia Wright
@viriniawrightt

If you are affected by the Energy East Pipeline, the National Energy Board wants to hear from you.

The NEB opened their Application to Participate Process on Feb. 3. The process will close on March 3. According to the NEB it is an opportunity for any person who, in the board's opinion, is directly affected by the pipeline or anyone who has expertise and information to be heard.

The proposed TransCanada Energy East Pipeline project will link up existing gas pipelines that will be converted for oil transportation. Pipeline construction in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Québec and New Brunswick will take place to make this link possible. Necessary facilities, pump stations and tank terminals will be constructed, too.

The 4,600-kilometre pipeline is projected to transport 1.1 million barrels of crude oil per day from Alberta and Saskatchewan. The \$12 billion project will make crude oil from these two provinces available to two refineries in Quebec, and one in New Brunswick.

Energy East will run through

many Saskatchewan cities such as Moose Jaw, Moosomin, Regina, White City and many First Nation communities.

"A study prepared by the Conference Board of Canada estimates 763 full-time jobs would be directly and indirectly supported in Saskatchewan during the seven-year planning and construction phase of the project, and another 208 jobs during the first 20 years the pipeline is in op-

eration," said Tim Duboyce, spokesperson for the Energy East Pipeline project. But concerns about the pipeline's impact on climate change are still an issue.

greenhouse gas emissions from the extraction, transport, refining and use of the 830,000 barrels per day of oil sands crude that be transported by the proposed Project." This is equivalent to 7.8 coal-fired plants or 5.7 million passenger vehicles, the EPA stated.

The letter also stated that the pipeline could release as much as 1.37 billion more tons of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere

what gives them legislative authority. However, reviewing impacts on climate change is not part of it, according to Tara O'Donovan, communications officer at the NEB. "It's outside of the mandate that has been given to us by Parliament...there is nothing in the Act that gives us the power to consider the upstream or downstream effects of a pipeline project," she said.

Though evaluating climate change is not part of the NEB Act, the need for discussion is still prevalent in cities where the pipeline will run through.

Chelsea Flook, a Regina citizen, is in favour of holding community meetings that are encouraged by 350.org. "Climate change will continue to impact our lives here and we have to start talking, thinking and doing things about that," she said.

Energy East's Duboyce argues that oil is critical to maintaining the lifestyle society enjoys today.

"The demand for oil in the marketplace is not abating. The production of oil will continue, and it will be brought to markets that seek it. What Energy East represents is the safest, most efficient, reliable, and affordable way to get it there," said Duboyce.

"THE PRODUCTION OF OIL WILL CONTINUE, AND IT WILL BE BROUGHT TO MARKETS THAT SEEK IT. WHAT ENERGY EAST REPRESENTS IS THE SAFEST, MOST EFFICIENT, RELIABLE, AND AFFORDABLE WAY TO GET IT THERE."

-TIM DUBOYCE

over 50 years.

Cam Fenton, tar sands organizer at 350.org wants Canada and the NEB to follow the same review of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change as the United States EPA. "We have the precedent from the United States that they're doing this, they're reviewing them, we should be doing the same," he said.

The NEB Act guides how the board reviews these projects and is

board reviews these projects and is

SHUT DOWN CANADA CALLS FOR ACTION



On Feb. 13 protesters will close roads, ports and train tracks to send their message.

Photo by Alec Salloum

Alec Salloum

@alecsalloum

During a senate committee meeting on Aboriginal peoples Paul Martin was asked if he thought if Aboriginal peoples “coalesced, could they not bring this country to a standstill?” Martin answered, “We would hope not; and that we would hope not because government will react before that happens.” Shut Down Canada, a grassroots movement calling for action on Feb. 13 plans to challenge this.

The call for action goes as follows: “CALLOUT for communities across Canada to blockade their local railway, port or highway on February 13th. Don’t buy, don’t fly, no work and keep the kids home from school. A diversity of tactics is highly recommended! Get everyone involved. The goal is to significantly impact the Canadian economy for a day.#ShutDownCanada.”

There are several motivations behind Shut Down Canada, from environmental concerns over the tar sands, fracking and the site C dam project; to the societal issues like missing and murdered Aboriginal women, disenfranchised Aboriginal voters and the recently proposed anti-terrorism Bill C-51.

The decentralized grassroots movement will take on different goals depending on where the action is held. “There is no centralized leadership and we have made that clear, this is why I feel it has taken on a larger influence, so no one person is the target for leadership,” said Dan Wallace, who first made the call for action with Shannon Hecker earlier this year.

“WE CAN’T EAT MONEY, WE CAN’T BREATHE GAS, WE CAN’T DRINK OIL. THE BLOCKADES HAPPENING ALL OVER WILL MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE MONEY, AND IF IT TAKES STOPPING THE MONEY FLOW FOR A FEW HOURS TO GET THE GOVERNMENT’S ATTENTION TO ALL OF THE ISSUES WE ARE RALLYING FOR THEN THAT’S WHAT’S GOING TO HAPPEN.”

- AKOHSERÀKE DEER

Wallace, an activist and organizer, started the movement in British Columbia, where the Vancouver port metro will be blockaded. The port is one of the largest in North America, trading approximately \$184 billion gross product annually across the globe, according to the port metro website. The movement “has grown from nothing to 20 locations wanting to act. More and more people are willing to and wanting to take a stand and that is what is being encouraged - no more fear mentality,” said Wallace.

Empowerment is the cornerstone of the movement, said Wallace. On Feb. 14 there are national marches planned for the 1,181 missing and

murdered Aboriginal women, but Shut Down Canada wants “to offer and more direct approach for people that are just... fed up,” said Wallace.

Action on both days will be collaborative and complimentary. Akohseràke Deer, organizing Shut Down Canada action in Kahnawake, Que. said, “we want inquiries, we want the government to look into

to the mobility of Shut Down Canada. These issues have been long ingrained in our society, she said.

Several organizers have been secretive in what direct action their locations are planning, this is due to a fear of being watched by authorities. Wallace alone has been arrested several times for his peaceful protests.

Protests against fracking in New Brunswick, the XL pipeline in British Columbia, and Kinder Morgan at Trans Mountain have contributed to this call for action but ultimately the government

will only listen to one thing - money - according to organizers.

“We can’t eat money, we can’t breathe gas, we can’t drink oil. The blockades happening all over will make an impact on the money, and if it takes stopping the money flow for a few hours to get the government’s attention to all of the issues we are rallying for then that’s what’s going to happen,” said Deer.

“It’s simple: we don’t get what we want, we’re shutting shit down,” said Tutino.

“Centuries of horrid history are involved. This is long overdue,” said Tutino. Idle No More and greater awareness of social injustices facing Aboriginal peoples has contributed

DANCING AGAINST VIOLENCE



On Feb. 14, dancers will hit the floor to promote non-violence towards women and girls in solidarity with the One Billion Rising movement.

Photo by Kendall Latimer

Kendall Latimer

@klatimer_

People are engaging in dance flash mobs to stimulate global awareness. On Feb. 14, the international community will participate in One Billion Rising. The campaign promotes ending violence towards women and girls from all walks of life.

"I think that it is a peaceful way, a joyful way to take a stand," said Linda Yablonski, from Belly Dance with Linda.

The One Billion Rising campaign was derived from the V-day movement which was inspired by Eve Ensler's play *Vagina Monologues*. The catalyst for the play was Ensler's interviews with over 200 women about their vaginas.

One Billion Rising launched in 2012 and has evolved into an annual event. It strives to generate awareness of violence towards women and girls, like physical, mental, verbal and emotional abuse, female genital mutilation, rape, incest, and sex slavery.

The number one billion is representative of the one in three women who will experience violence in their lifetime. "The campaign highlights the fact that violence towards women is a global human issue not relegated to a country or tribe or class or religion," the campaign website states.

Yablonski joined the One Billion Rising movement two years ago. She was introduced to the movement via Facebook and has choreographed a routine to the movement's theme song "Break the Chain." On Sat. Feb.

14 she and those who join her will flash mob a Regina mall in honor of the campaign. The specific mall has not yet been announced.

"I was struck so deeply when I read it and cried so hard. So many people are so badly mistreated and it's time to stop it. I love to dance and the whole thing about One Billion Rising is to rise up through dance, song, through drumming, through movement and it doesn't have to be dance," she said, adding that "it could be poetry or any kind of performance art and to say, 'I as a women am not going to put up with this anymore,' somebody's got to

"SASKATCHEWAN HAS THE TERRIBLE DISTINCTION OF HAVING THE HIGHEST RATE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN CANADA IN TERMS OF PROVINCES."

- CARLA BECK

take a stand."

The Regina Transition House is a local shelter that offers services to women threatened with violence. Their goal is to eliminate all forms of abuse. Carla Beck, assistant executive director at Regina's Transition House, said that any time a group brings issues of violence to the forefront it is a benefit to those currently experiencing it.

"One of the main methods of control that abusers will use in abusive relationships is isolation and fear, so we can counter that and point to allies in the community," said Beck. "Often women will express to us, 'I thought it was just me, I thought it was because of something I did.'

When they realize it's a larger societal issue and that others are experiencing the same thing, it gives them power."

Over 1,000 women and children asked for entry into the shelter last year. Beck said the services and programs have expanded, but the shelter still can't meet community demand.

"Another thing that has impacted us is that the length of stay has increased dramatically because of the housing situation in Regina and the lack of affordable housing," she said, adding that if women and children don't have a place to go they can't

leave abusive situations.

"Saskatchewan has the terrible distinction of having the highest rate of violence against women in Canada in terms of provinces. I mean the territories are higher, but our rates of violence against women are almost double the national average."

Beck noted that there are many contributing factors when it comes to violence against women and children, and that the solution will not be easy. "This is not a problem that's going to be solved by building more shelters. It's important to have them in place, but we need to address violence against women and children at a societal level."

Yablonski hopes to generate societal awareness with the dance flash mob. "I hope that some woman who's walking by the mall when we're dancing will see that there are other people who support her, who don't even know her, but they're standing up for her," said Yablonski.

"Maybe it's just enough to inspire someone else to say, 'Wow I need to take a stand, I need to have a bigger voice, I need to use my power.'"

IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW NEEDS SUPPORT CONTACT:

- SOFIA HOUSE
306-565-2537
- REGINA TRANSITION HOUSE
24-HOUR EMERGENCY LINE 306-569-2292
- MOBILE CRISIS LINE
306-757-0127
- UNIVERSITY OF REGINA WOMEN'S CENTRE
306-584-1255

GRAFFITI: MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE



A mural off 13th Ave painted by Josh Goff.

Photo by Rebekah Lesko

Rebekah Lesko

@bekalesko

Artistic, creative and intriguing versus destructive, pointless and vandalism.

These are the two perspectives on graffiti. The vast range from extravagant murals to hateful racial slurs feed the debate on graffiti. The question lies between art and vandalism. It all just depends on who you ask.

For Josh Goff, graffiti is art.

The Regina artist started off as an illegal graffiti artist in his teen years, however a run-in with the police before he was 18 taught him to take up graffiti with permission and for a profit. Now 32, Goff turned his once colourful, mischievous hobby into a respectable, thriving business.

He admits he fights stereotypes when it comes to graffiti. "I'm trying to change that viewpoint and trying to show what's really going on, instead of this media hype of it's all gang-related, it'll damage our city and makes it worthless. There is actually no statistics behind that," said Goff.

However the City of Regina thinks graffiti is a problem.

By implementing a bylaw in 2008 titled "Let's Wipe Out Graffiti," the city's graffiti management program plans to eradicate graffiti. The belief is that graffiti harms Regina with obscene and offensive vandalism, costly repairs, damage to architecture, and that it creates fear of crime. The program offers graffiti prevention strategies, as well as removal options.

The program works closely with the Regina Police Service. Corporal Todd Jerome is the graffiti coordinator for the city.

Jerome explained there are a number of ways to prevent graffiti vandalism. "The quicker you remove graffiti the better it is. Once one tag has been put on, it just seems to snowball," he said.

He investigates the graffiti mischiefs that come through the Regina Police Service.

"Most of the people that do graffiti are young offenders, and there are different ways to charge and proceed with charges after that," said Jerome.

However Goff offers an explanation for that. "They're gravitating to-

ward graffiti art because they want to have an identity, they want to express themselves, they want to feel confident about what they're doing and graffiti can be that tool. The city is not seeing it that way. They just see it, as it's just a vandal, someone not thinking right."

In addition, Goff believes the broken windows theory applies to the Queen City. "They associate an esthetic thing that's uncomfortable for people, that that's what relates right to crime, but it's not. Why crime happens is because of poverty and social system things that aren't working," Goff said.

In efforts to enhance Regina, Goff paints graffiti murals all around the city. During the annual Regina's Cathedral Village Arts Festival, Goff can be found with other local graffiti artists creating images around the area, particularly on Brandee's convenience store wall. Every year since 2002, artists have painted a new mural on Brandee's wall, creating a local attraction.

"In the beginning years, it was a lot harder to convince people that graffiti was an art form. The Bran-

dee's wall was kind of the Mecca of Regina graffiti," said Goff.

Pat Bohn, owner of Brandee's for the past 25 years, believes the graffiti murals attached to her store have helped stop illegal graffiti tags. Before the murals, her store was a target to random tags, but since then the wall has been respected. She said the expense of covering up unwanted graffiti was a factor in welcoming the murals.

Bohn said no one has ever said anything negative about the murals and the idea is catching on in Regina. "Other people are starting to do it too. It's giving character to the community," she said.

Her son, Stephen Bohn, also explained how the graffiti murals go untouched, but open areas such as windows attract random illegal graffiti.

Because of graffiti murals such as Brandee's and others around the city, Goff said "the perception of 'it's all vandalism' started to go away."

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

"DO YOU THINK GRAFFITI IS ART OR VANDALISM?"

"I THINK IT'S AN ACT OF EXPRESSION AND ART IS EXPRESSION."



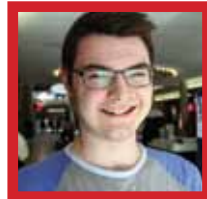
-SANDRA STAPLES-JETKO

"IT CAN BE BOTH, DEPENDS WHERE IT IS."



-TARA ZARURKO

"I WOULD DEFINE IT ALL AS VANDALISM, BUT SOME OF IT'S MORE ARTISTIC THAN OTHERS."



-PATRICK SCHERR

"DEPNDS ON THE MOTIVE, AND YOU'LL NEVER KNOW UNLESS YOU TALK TO THE INDIVIDUAL."



-WENDY DEBERT

U OF R RELEASES PLAN: PÊYAK ASKI KIKAWÎNAW



The University of Regina's five year strategic plan is designed to provide a work environment for indigenous students to thrive academically.

Photo by Rafique Bhuiyan

Dylan Bernhardt @dylanbernhardt

S mudging. Round Dances. Feasting. These are just some of the traditions practiced by Canada's Aboriginal cultures.

This is something that the University of Regina looks to emphasize with its recent 2015-2020 strategic plan entitled Peyak Aski Kikawinaw, or "We are one with Mother Earth."

The plan has been designed to both recognize indigenous culture as well as create an environment for indigenous students to learn and prosper.

Shauneen Pete, executive lead of indigenization at the university, said the initiative has been set out with clear goals. "It has three key areas. One is student success, the other one is community engagement and research impact," she said.

Indigenization is a term often associated with the strategic plan. "We define it as the transformation of the university. We are wanting to make some really profound changes to the academic program, to the communities we engage with, to the types of supports we provide for students and the kinds of research we engage in," said Pete.

"I love it. I think it's a great way to be inclusive and I think it's really long overdue," said Daphne Kay, a

fourth year political science student. "If you don't feel accepted or welcome some place, you don't want to stay there. That's why a lot of people drop out of university, because they don't see themselves in the institution that they are learning at."

The process is not without its challenges, however. Kay explained the effects of colonialism are still felt today. "Our whole society is steeped in this colonialism. We don't even know half the time if we are being racist or if that is inappropriate. It's

"IF YOU DON'T FEEL ACCEPTED OR WELCOME
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SELVES IN THE INSTITUTION THAT THEY ARE
LEARNING AT."

-DAPHNE KAY

the society we live in. It's okay to play cowboys and Indians because our grandparents and our great-great-grandparents played that game and were not looked down upon," she said.

Kay added many people feel the term itself is wrongfully viewed by some as an attempt to white-wash the university. "This indigenization process isn't a takeover; it's just

reflecting and giving thanks to the people that were on these lands before," she said.

Pete said the university community is employing different techniques in the application of the plan. "Bringing Elders into classrooms is a way of decolonizing, for example. Changing what course outlines look like, what the content is. It goes so far as to work towards a representative workforce."

Recently, new rules have opened the door to on-campus smudging

ture to smudge every day," said Kay. "A lot of these cultural events were pushed aside. (People said,) 'Go do it at FNU.' There was that barrier there for awhile, but I think with the indigenization process, people feel more comfortable going to both campuses because that cultural inclusivity is at both campuses now."

The program has also worked closely with various departments to bring indigenization into the classroom. Pete said the goal is not just to create an academic environment for indigenous students, but also to give a better understanding of indigenous culture to all students.

Kay noted the importance of having places and programs like the Aboriginal Student Center. She recalled her first visit to the ASC. "I was just blown away because someone cared enough to know about me to showcase my identity and really celebrate who I am and where I come from," she said.

"Most people have been structurally denied the opportunity to learn about aboriginal people. It's a little bit difficult for them to understand the social inequalities that persist here," Pete said.

"For me, this type of work is really the foundation for achieving reconciliation in my lifetime."

and feasting. Smudging is a ceremony in which sweet grass is burned and the smoke moves over the body. The ceremony is used by many aboriginal people. However, until recently, rules banned the burning of sweet grass on campus and limited the ability to feast by forbidding outside food on campus.

"It's in our culture to have feast, to give thanks. It's also within our cul-

ABORIGINAL PERFORMERS TAKE CENTRE STAGE



Jason Chamakese, left, and Robert Gladue, right, perform at First Nations University of Canada in Regina.

Photo by Creeden Martell

Creeden Martell

@creedenmartell

Aboriginal Achievement Week is underway at the University of Saskatchewan. It is organized by the Aboriginal Student Centre. Events are scheduled throughout the week and include musical performances, art exhibitions and a round dance.

ally traditional storytellers because that title is reserved for our Elders," Gladue explained.

The pair will also talk about personal experiences. Gladue notes that the performance depends on the audience or the theme of the performance.

Bring on the Heat! is another live performance scheduled and is de-

in society.

Performer Tenille Campbell said the event was based on a poetry slam.

"We're each talking on the theme of irreverence, using language, words, humour to push at the boundaries. It's supposed to make us think about the issues that we kind of approach blindly and re-

very seriously," Roy said.

"An old man told me when I was growing up, 'You have three strikes against you: you're poor, you're native, and you're a woman. Life is going to be really hard for you.' I had to take that really seriously because he wasn't trying to be derogatory. He was actually telling me the truth. So, I kept that in the back of my mind,"

"WE'RE EACH TALKING ON THE THEME OF IRREVERENCE, USING LANGUAGE, WORDS, HUMOUR TO PUSH AT THE BOUNDARIES. IT'S SUPPOSED TO MAKE US THINK ABOUT THE ISSUES THAT WE KIND OF APPROACH BLINDLY AND RE-EVALUATE THEM."

-TENILLE CAMPBELL

Robert Gladue and Jason Chamakese will perform during the Aboriginal Achievement Week festivities. Chamakese is a flutist and Gladue plays the hand drum as well as sings.

It will be their first time performing at Aboriginal Achievement Week, though they have performed at the U of S before.

"Along with the music, there are also stories that blend in with the songs that we perform," Gladue said. The two will perform songs telling old stories which have been passed down to them.

"Keep in mind that we're not actu-

scribed as a "battle of the words" by organizer Tasha Hubbard. "*Bring on the Heat!* is organized by a collective of indigenous and non-indigenous faculty," Hubbard said.

Four women will perform, all of whom have something different planned. Jennifer Bishop, Tenille Campbell, Dakota-Ray Hebert and Zoey 'Pricelys' Roy will take the stage and compete against each other for *Bring on the Heat!*

Humour is the common factor among the four performers, but *Bring on the Heat!* will also deal with important issues like colonialism and how women are perceived

evaluate them," Campbell said.

Zoey 'Pricelys' Roy has a different approach to her performance, as she is a self-described spoken word poet and MC. "I write about indigenous issues and things to celebrate as an indigenous people," Roy said. "I was really inspired by Idle No More. I am an activist."

Roy believes there is a certain responsibility to be held as a female indigenous performer.

"I think we're developing new allies. Indigenous artists, we have such a huge responsibility in reclaiming our identity and being proud of who we are. I hold that responsibility

Roy said. "You know, having the gift of being able to write and share stories with so many people... Being an indigenous woman, I take that as a blessing and not as a curse when sometimes that's not the narrative anymore."

Chamakese and Gladue are scheduled to perform in Regina at the First Nations University of Canada on Feb. 10.

#usaskAAW



Photo by Creeden Martell

SUPREME COURT STRIKES DOWN BILL 5



A worker plies his trade in Regina. A new Supreme Court ruling allows for greater workers' rights in Saskatchewan.

Photo by Eric Westhaver

Eric Westhaver

@ericwesthaver

Unions plowed the prairies and built the cities where we trade. After a Supreme Court decision, their right to strike is saved.

On Jan. 30, a Saskatchewan law that restricted the working rights of public employees was struck down by the Supreme Court. The Public Service Essential Services Act, more commonly known as "Bill 5", was ruled unconstitutional by a 5-2 majority. The Saskatchewan government must now either repeal or alter the law in the next year.

The law change means that it is now legal for all Saskatchewan public employees to strike. "Prior to this decision by the Supreme Court, workers were, in accordance with the Essential Services Act, prohibited from their now-enshrined constitutional right to strike because of government interference," said Larry Hubich, president of the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour.

Under Bill 5, some public employees were considered to provide "essential services," meaning that they would be forced to work during a

work stoppage. Union leaders said this undermined the rights of workers and unions. Saskatchewan is one of four provinces that had essential services laws, including Newfoundland and Labrador, British Columbia, and Nova Scotia.

When Bill 5 and its companion, Bill 6 – an Amendment to the Trade Union Act – were introduced by the Saskatchewan Party in 2007, the provinces' unions took action.

"We did make a submission to the government prior to it being brought into law, but it was, to my point of view at least, ignored," said Tom Graham, president of CUPE Saskatchewan. "The legislation that was finally passed was exactly the same as the stuff they introduced in the previous sitting."

Graham added, "It bounced up to the Supreme Court of Canada, decisions were made, and on January 30, they made their decision."

While Bill 5 will be altered, Bill 6 is still part of Saskatchewan law. Under Bill 6, employees who wish to become unionized must cast "secret ballots" in the workplace, and 45 per cent of workers must now sign union cards before unionizing.

"I'M HOPEFUL WE'RE NOT JUST HANDED SOME NEW LEGISLATION, AND BE TOLD, 'HERE, AGREE TO THIS.'"

- TOM GRAHAM

The law change will have an effect on employees at the University of Regina, as well. The U of R Faculty Association was one of many parties that teamed up for the Supreme Court case.

"For other unions on campus, like CUPE who represents maintenance employees and janitors and secretaries, I know some of them have come under the definition of essential services as was prescribed by the bill," said Sylvain Rheault, the current chair for URFA. "For most URFA members, we didn't gain anything, but because we're part of the bigger labour movement, we all consider it a big victory."

While Bill 6 is still troubling for unions, Graham is hopeful about the Court's decision. "It's restored a bit of balance at the bargaining table for us. We will have to sit down - and we're quite willing to do that

with the government - to discuss something realistic to protect public safety and to protect these collective bargaining rights for working people.

"I'm hopeful we're not just handed some new legislation, and be told, 'Here, agree to this.' I would prefer from CUPE's perspective to sit down and have some real discussion here about what would work and what wouldn't work," added Graham.

Hubich also considered the downfall of Bill 5 a good thing, saying, "It's significantly rebalanced the power relationship that exists between the employer and workers."

While Bill 6 is still on Saskatchewan's books, Bill 5 will be gone soon. For Saskatchewan's labour leaders, while it isn't the total victory they were looking for, that's still a very good thing.

SUPER BOWL

... continued from page 1

This "considerable irritation" to Canadians was discussed during the CRTC consultation *Let's Talk TV: A Conversation with Canadians*, which resulted in a policy prohibiting simultaneous substitution during the Super Bowl starting at the end of the 2016 NFL season.

David Balcon, who was a senior research officer at the CRTC when the original simultaneous substitution regulations debuted, said it is critical to have Canadian content remain on air or Canadian broadcasters lose the benefits of viewership.

"It's a matter of really an economic under base for the Canadian broadcasting system," said Balcon, who is now an independent film maker in Toronto.

Because more Canadians are

watching more American programming, "(simultaneous substitution) preserved the value of the program to the Canadian licensee to ensure advertising could be sold on the basis of a full audience delivery," said Balcon.

In its policy statement, the CRTC acknowledged the role of ad substitutions in supporting Canadian broadcasting, but added, "Nonetheless, Canadians have expressed ongoing frustration with the issues of simultaneous substitution in general."

The CRTC said it received a number of official complaints each year on the issue.

Balcon said that the decision to prohibit Canadian commercials during future live Super Bowls is under-

mining basic CRTC principals and extending the Canadian audience to American advertisers, who will now receive a greatly increased audience for their products – by popular demand.

"The rationale for that is that content producers who sell or license TV programs to Canadian broadcasters and US broadcasters are really limiting the licence to a particular geography. And the whole issue of extra-territoriality comes into play."

In its submission to the CRTC, Bell Media estimated \$40 million could be lost to prohibiting live event simultaneous substitution.

Company officials for Bell were unwilling to comment when further contacted.

A study showed that eliminating simultaneous substitution would have cost Canadian broadcasters "\$242-\$266 million, with a secondary impact . . . in the range of \$173-\$191 million," said the CRTC.

"As to why the CRTC did this, I suspect as a bit of a cloak for maintaining the general policy by addressing a rather minor, albeit in the media major, complaint by a vociferous group of sports fans," said Balcon.

So, while you're drinking your Pilsner, let's hope you enjoy your Budweiser commercial.

BOB RYAN FOUNDATION HELPS RAMS PLAYERS



The Bob Ryan Foundation is hoping to have a scholarship available for future Rams teams at the University of Regina.

Photo by Britton Gray

Britton Gray
@brittongray

The Super Bowl has come and gone this year, and 114.4 million people tuned into it. For Seattle Seahawks punter Jon Ryan and his family, the focus now shifts to supporting the Bob Ryan Foundation.

Bob Ryan passed away in 2006 after losing a battle with cancer. He was a graduate of the University of Regina and was working on his PhD in psychology at the time of his death. He also helped Ranch Ehrlo Society grow into the organization

every year without ever dipping into the fund itself,” Ryan said.

“We want to provide a scholarship annually for an University of Regina Rams football player and when we’re able to award that then we’re going to set our sights on some bigger goals as well.”

Dilan Elgert, a first year cornerback for the Rams, believes that scholarships are extremely important to student athletes. He is currently on a full scholarship with the Rams.

“The fact that I can play football while attending school to get my de-

bert Street, recently held a foundation fundraiser night during the Super Bowl. The restaurant donated money for every point that the Seattle Seahawks scored in the game and for every time Jon Ryan punted the ball.

Steve Ryan is also hoping that the foundation will be able to help out

troubled youth in the future, with his dad’s history of helping youth.

“It’s obviously so important to my family that my dad’s legacy lives on,” Steve Ryan said.

You can find out more about the golf tournament and scholarship by going to the website.

www.jonryanccgc.com

“THE FACT THAT I CAN PLAY FOOTBALL WHILE ATTENDING SCHOOL TO GET MY DEGREE IS EXTREMELY HELPFUL. WITHOUT A SCHOLARSHIP I PROBABLY WOULDN’T BE AT UNIVERSITY.”

- DILAN ELGERT

that it is today.

The Bob Ryan Foundation was started up by Jon, his brother Steve and his family in memory of his father. The foundation’s goal is to raise money for the U of R Rams scholarship fund as well as raising money for the Saskatchewan Cancer Association.

All four of Bob’s kids have attended the U of R with Jon and Steve being members of the Rams.

The foundation has not been able to hand out a scholarship yet but Steve Ryan is hoping that it will become a self-sustaining fund.

“Basically the idea is to get enough money in the fund that we can pull the money from investments every year so that the fund can sustain itself. Essentially the interest made off the fund will create a scholarship

gree is extremely helpful. Without a scholarship I probably wouldn’t be at university”.

Barb Ryan, who was Bob’s wife, said she has seen a lot of support from the community and has seen people of many different ages showing their support for the foundation.

“I know that Jon went to speak at an elementary school, the elementary school that my grandchildren went to and that he (Jon) and his siblings went to,” Barb Ryan said. “Kids took up little collections and sent it to the foundation.”

The foundation puts on a celebrity golf tournament, with appearances by CFL and NFL football players, with this year’s to be held on June 25. The foundation also puts on auctions of jerseys and trips.

Leopold’s Tavern, located on Al-

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ANSWER KEY:

THE REALITY OF SELLING A FARM



The Strudwick's dairy farm has been for sale for three years now. Jennifer Strudwick is shown above in the now-empty dairy barn.

Photo by Ashley Robinson

Ashley Robinson
@ashleymr1993

Across Saskatchewan there are a number of farms for sale. Some have been on the market for years and others are snapped up right away.

Alan Gieselman, a 55-year-old farmer from Davidson, Sask. has had his farm on the market since November. He is selling it because he hasn't had the chance or money to expand over the last few years.

"All the big guys are eating (land) up and you can't buy a decent piece of machinery to farm your land. You either gotta buy a great big one and I can't afford to buy a half-a-million dollar combine for two sections," said Gieselman.

His eldest son has shown interest in farming but Gieselman says there is no way his son could make a living doing it. "I can't afford to just turn it over to him and he can't

afford to buy it at the price today," said Gieselman. "(He) would be at a worse position than I am."

According to Sheldon Froese, a farm realtor with Canadian Farm Realty, trying to buy a farm is all about the initial money you have. "It depends on what kind of backing you have from family. Obviously for land you need a fair amount of land to make a living so it would depend on what type of equity someone has," said Froese.

Harley and Jennifer Strudwick have had their dairy farm at Balgonie, Sask. for sale since 2012. "It's just that dairy is a lot of hard work and we don't have any kids... So there's no one to pass it along to and we worked really hard at it," said Jennifer Strudwick.

Initially they saw a lot of interest in it but since last fall they haven't had any inquiries at all.

"It's really tough even to buy land. It's gone up in value a lot and any of

the industries that are agriculture industries that are good steady income, industries like dairy, which is a good steady income because we have a quota system...but you have to have a pile of money to invest in the quota," said Strudwick.

Last summer the Strudwicks sold their milk quota and their cows. Since then Harley has been working at a job outside the farming industry and Jennifer has been working on a neighbour's dairy farm.

According to Froese the land around Regina is the most expensive in Saskatchewan. "I think the quality of land is part of it and the population there is just ... more population around Regina and those would be the main factors. Obviously there's a few bigger farms that are expanding there," said Froese.

Yet the Strudwick's farm, which is located 20 minutes from Regina, has been on the market for years now.

"We'll try it this way probably till

the end of this year and then if we don't have anything happening as a deal real-estate-wise we'll probably take it off the market," said Strudwick.

However Froese thinks the market will get better. "I think it'll be strong now that the prices have maybe leveled out a bit...There will be more interest than maybe there was last year," said Froese.

Meanwhile the Strudwicks are looking forward to moving on with their lives. "I guess that's probably why we got out when we did...My dad was a dairy farmer, Harley's parents and grandpa dairy farmed and we just felt like they went well into their sixties or longer...They've worn themselves out. We didn't want to do that, so I'm 44 and I'm looking for a new career, which is OK. I'm OK with that," said Strudwick.

INK

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